

Subject: Re: Bus Bench corner of Manchester and Sepulveda
From: Nate Kaplan <nate.kaplan@lacity.org>
Date: 01/26/2011 10:48 AM
To: Jruhlen916 <jruhlen916@aol.com>
CC: duckworth.donald@gmail.com, tthomas@coreland.com, miki@hbdrollinger.com, Andy@hbdrollinger.com

Shannon Eastonson and I have been playing phone tag. I will get an update and bench design info and send it to the group asap.

To address Don's points, here's my 2 cents:

1) Let's get some additional maintenance effort applied to the site. Cleaner would be better.

Ok

2) Let's get some additional bench space added to the site (decorative even and with overhead covers). Additional bench space would allow people waiting for the bus to all have a seat and not cluster at one point thus limiting pedestrian passage and creating a dysfunctional situation that forces people to walk in the street.

Sounds good, but not sure what the bench design looks like...I hope they have overhead covers, but don't bet on it

3) Decorative benches with overhead covers that matched or complimented those on Sepulveda would eliminate the stark ugliness of the current appearance where Sepulveda has nice new benches while Manchester has old ugly ones.

We need to see bench design still

4) Additional BID decorative trash receptacles would increase that capacity for trash at the bus stop and perhaps reduce debris on the ground.

Ok

5) We should work with the building owners and management to make sure that the colors that have been used at the site are optimum from a graffiti point of view and we should make sure that the BID's maintenance vendor has a supply on hand and the owner's permission to use it at the first sight of graffiti.

Still not sure what the bench design looks like

6) The Council Office needs to provide leadership to insure that the problem is not worsened by the addition of new bus routes / patron to this site until we have solved the problems that exist here now.

We will certainly let METRO know. It is very important that the BID contact the county as well. Our county supervisors/Metro Board ultimately make this decision...the City has little-to-no say when it comes to bus routes. It is important that our county rep, Knabe, knows how his constituents feel about this....please contact his office

John, "they may say you're a dreamer, but you're not the only one....."

-Nate

On Tue, Jan 25, 2011 at 9:10 PM, Jruhlen916 <jruhlen916@aol.com> wrote:

My suggestion is to see if the company that supplied the new bus stops could provide us with the same design, but only with the bench, the canopy support and canopy and attach it to the wall of the building. There would need to be two or three of these tandemed together to accommodate the size of the bus riders that wait there. Additional trash cans will help with more frequent pick up and cleaning the sidewalks. I know they like to have space for advertisements and that could also be attached to the wall.

This would, of course, depend on the building owner. Maybe having the CVS advertise in the space would be an incentive to allow the installation.

One of my soap box speeches has been to have a bus terminal on airport property behind the Parking Spot that would allow all the buses to stop under a shelter of some sort. This facility would have toilets, benches, trash receptacles and a gazebo for a news stand. This would provide safety for bus riders to move from one bus to another with out crossing busy streets and be under a shelter doing it.

The other plus to this idea is that people could park in the parking spot and take the bus to places like Santa Monica and other parts of the world. Not a bad Idea.

Dream on Ruhlen

-----Original Message-----

From: Donald Duckworth <duckworth.donald@gmail.com>

To: Nate Kaplan <nate.kaplan@lacity.org>; jruhlen916 <jruhlen916@aol.com>

Cc: Tracy Thomas <tthomas@coreland.com>; Miki Payne <miki@hbdrollinger.com>; Andy Loos <Andy@hbdrollinger.com>

Sent: Tue, Jan 25, 2011 11:36 am

Subject: Re: Bus Bench corner of Manchester and Sepulveda

Here's what I think; I'm thinking out loud here and inviting conversation. Let's see if we can't reach a consensus.

I had no idea that Tracy felt as strongly as she indicated about the possible relocation of the bus benches to the west of the shopping center driveway, whether that would be all the way to Sepulveda Westway or not. She did say that she would keep an open mind about design solutions that we might develop to assuage her concerns.

That said, I think the reality is that any significant "best available" design solution might best come at such time as the new shopping center ownership might entertain the redevelopment of the entire property. That will be several years into the future. Let's not jump into a new time consuming priority to consider moving the bus benches or redesigning their functioning that is not well timed right now. Let's spend our time on those other priorities that we all share that have a greater possibility of success. (Perhaps we could figure out a way to get the new landscaping north of Manchester maintained; or build the Sepulveda entryway landscape improvements; or pursue other more immediately do-able projects.

If the permanent solution for the bus stop at SWC of Manchester and Sepulveda is more long-term, we still have a horrendous short-term maintenance problem. I do think we can make improvements on that, and it's important. It is a recurring theme when we survey patrons of the WTC that the area is dirty and unkept because of the perceptions that this bus stop creates.

It seems to me that the solution to the short-term problem is multi faceted. 1) Let's get some additional maintenance effort applied to the site. Cleaner would be better. 2) Let's get some additional bench space

added to the site (decorative even and with overhead covers). Additional bench space would allow people waiting for the bus to all have a seat and not cluster at one point thus limiting pedestrian passage and creating a dysfunctional situation that forces people to walk in the street. 3) Decorative benches with overhead covers that matched or complimented those on Sepulveda would eliminate the stark ugliness of the current appearance where Sepulveda has nice new benches while Manchester has old ugly ones. 4) Additional BID decorative trash receptacles would increase that capacity for trash at the bus stop and perhaps reduce debris on the ground. 5) We should work with the building owners and management to make sure that the colors that have been used at the site are optimum from a graffiti point of view and we should make sure that the BID's maintenance vendor has a supply on hand and the owner's permission to use it at the first sight of graffiti. 6) The Council Office needs to provide leadership to insure that the problem is not worsened by the addition of new bus routes / patron to this site until we have solved the problems that exist here now.

What does everybody think?

On Mon, Jan 24, 2011 at 3:50 PM, Nate Kaplan <nate.kaplan@lacity.org> wrote:

Hey guys,

Before I talk to Shannon Eastonson. what's the consensus on the bus bench location.....east or west of the driveway?

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